DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 105 883 IR 001 916

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TITLE	Lowell Area Council on Interlibrary Network Radio Project.
PUB DATE	75
NOTE	15p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.76 HC-$1.58 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS	Information Dissemination; Interinstitutional Cooperation; *Library Cooperation; Library Networks; *Library Services; Outreach Programs; *Programing (Broadcast); *Public Affairs Education; *Radio; Regional Programs
IDENTIFIERS	LACOIN; *Lowell Area Council on Interlibrary Networks

ABSTRACT

In the fall of 1973, public, school, and college librarians in the Lowell, Massachusetts, area formed the Lowell Area Council on Interlibrary Networks (LACOIN). With a grant from the Library Services and Construction Act, Title III, LACOIN initiated library-sponsored public affairs radio broadcasting for its community. Utilizing the Lowell Technological Institute's radio station, WLTI, broadcasting began on November 18, 1973, with three hours of operation beginning at noon and incorporating three programs: public affairs/general interest interviews (Afternoon Agenda), educational philosophy and practice (School Bag), and ethnic oriented local history (Heritage). Plans were made for expanding to a full broadcasting day and incorporating several new programing concepts. LACOIN has also initiated other library cooperation projects including a union list of serials for its member libraries. This report includes program schedules for the radio project and a list of those library and non-library agencies which have participated. (Author/SL)

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LOWELL AREA COUNCIL ON INTERLIBRARY NETWORK

RADIO PROJECT.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
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IR 001 916

In the fall of 1973 public, school and college librarians in the Lowell Area met at the inviatation of Lowell City Library trustee Arthur Cryan to explore possible areas of cooperation. The group continued meeting as the Committee on Interlibrary Networks under the temporary Chairmanship of Philip Northway of the City Library. Its success though heartening was not assured until the suggestion of Joseph Kopycinski, Lowell Technological Institute, that the LTI Radio Station, WLTI, might be utilized as a library sponsored public affairs station 8-3 weekdays. With this as a focal point the group expanded its title to the present Lowell Area Council on Interlibrary Networks and developed by-laws after consultation with Worcester Area Cooperating Libraries coordinator Ray Debuse. An application was prepared for a special project grant under LSCA Title 111 to operate the station, (91.5FM), which has a broadcasting range of about 30 miles; upon favorable response from the Massachusetts Bureau of Library Extension the Executive Committee, consisting of members-at-large Philip Northway, Grace Aitel (Shawsheen Technical School), George Hickey (Billerica School System), Treasurer Joseph Kopycinski and chairperson David Panciera (Adams, Chelmsford) held interviews for the two full time radio positions. The committee hired Don McLean and Jean Bancroft, independent producers then working for WALE New Bedford. The selection was a natural since our two coordinators had demonstrated an extensive commitment to community service and educational broadcasting as well as radio expertise.

This venture, which to our knowledge, represents an imprecedented step by a group of libraries, seeks to exploit a relatively forgotten, in the rush for video tape, medium to fulfill libraries' responsibilities to inform. In this union of information agencies and a communications facility we intend to reverse the essential passivity of any library by bringing at least one facet of our service right into the home while requiring a minimum of user initiative. Scheduled to begin operation on Nov. 18, we begin with three hour operation commencing at noon, incorporating three programs: public affairs / general interest interviews (Afternoon Agenda) educational philosophy and practice (School Bag) and an ethnic orientated local history (Heritage). Plans call for expanding to our full broadcasting day in early December, incorporating several additional programming concepts now under development.

LACOIN does not confine itself to the radio project; a standing Committee chaired by Mary Hadley (Bennett Library, Billerica) is investigating non-radio cooperation, and negotiations are under way with the Faxon Agency to provide a useable and reasonably complete union list of currently received serials in nine member libraries. Even apart from the effectiveness of the media approach LACOIN represents a meaningful step toward productive interaction between small and large libraries of three types, and this is ultimately its major contribution to service in the Lowell area.

Although the range of WLTI creates a natural boundary for members there is no geographic prerequisite for membership, nor is membership even required for participation in LACOIN projects. Any library wishing schedule or information announcements put on the air may send their requests directly to LACOIN c/o WLTI, Alumni Memorial Library, Lowell Technological Institute, Lowell, Mass. 01800 (phone number pending). Participation in any other aspect of the operation may be discussed at any time with LACOIN chairperson David Panciera, Adams Library, Boston Road, Chelmsford 01824 (256-5521).

Proposed Full Schedule to Begin August 1, 1975

Time	Title	Content	Regular host and/or affiliation
8:00	Magazine	News, weather, calendar etc.	Bancroft/McLean
8:30	Panorama	Monday: The Arts	Marie Geary
		Tuesday: Spending Money	Mass Dept. of Agriculture
		Wednesday: Job Hunt	National Association of Businessman
		Thursday: Social Scene	Abigail Adams (Adams Library)
		Friday: The Music Man	Lowell State
8:45	Readings	Selections from books	Several
9:00	Heritage	Monday & Thursday: Spanish	Jean Schott
		Tuesday: French	Rev. Morisette
		Wednesday: Polish	Rev. Abuscewitz
		Friday: Greek	Rev. Stamas
9:30	Child's Play	Story & Song for pre-schoolers; also book reviews etc. for parents	Susan Schleigh(Adams Library)
9:45	Focus Human Services	Varies e.g. Juvenile Court, SHARE, etc	several
10:00	Magazine	as above	
10:15	Sunshine Hour	Magazine, interviews, readings	Cliff Choquette (thru Merrimack Valley Home Care
11:15	Panorama	Rerun of 8:30	
11:30	Emphasis: Women	Women in society: historical, cultural, contemporary perspective	Tom Higgins Middlesex c.c. Coordinator
12:00	Afternoon Agenda	Wide ranging interview	McLean/Bancroft
1:45	Reading	as above	
2:00	School Bag	Educators, parents, students in and out of the system	Bancroft
2:30	Untitled	to be announced	Lowell Tech Students
3:00	Sign off		

Present Schedule

Time	Title	Content	Regular host and/or affiliation
10:00	Magazine	News, weather, claendar, etc.	Bancroft/McLean
10:15	Sunshine Hour	Magazine, interviews, readings	Cliff Choquette (thru Merrimack Valley Home Care Inc.)
11:00	Readings	Selections from books	several
11:15	Panorama	Monday: The arts	Marie Geary
		Tuesday: Spending Money	Mass. Dept. of Agriculture
		Wednesday: Job Hunt	National Association of Businessmen
		Thursday: Social Scene	Abigail Adams (Adams Library
		Friday: The Music Man	Lowell State
11:30	Focus Human Services	Varies e.g. Juvenile Court, SHARE, etc.	several
11:45	Child's Play	Story & song for preschoolers, also book reviews etc. for parents	Susan Schleigh (Adams Library)
12:00	Magazine	As above	
12:30	Afternoon Agenda	Wide ranging interview format	McLean, Bancroft
1:45	Reading	As above	
2:00	School Bag	Educators, parents, students in & out of the system	Bancroft
2:30	Heritage	Monday & Thursday: Spanish	Jean Schott
		Tuesday: French	Rev. Morisetts
		Wednesday: Polish	Rev. Abuscewitz
		Friday: Greek	Rev. Stamas
3:00	Sign Off		

LACOIN NETWORK

WLTI-FM 91.5

Your Voice in Public Broadcasting

8:00 A.M. — 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon — 3:00 P. M. Monday — Friday

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LISTEN

AFTERNOON AGENDA 12:30-2:00	A pot pourri. . .guests. . . conversation, open phones living. . .issues. . .ideas	Lots of "freebees". . Recipes. . .health tips Ideas on issues. . .
	TALK	
THE SCHOOL BAG 2:00-2:30	Everything you always wanted to know about schools and learning but didn't bother to ask. . .and more!	Brochures on everything from specific learning disabilities to parent groups.
		SHARE
HERITAGE 2:30-3:00	A mix of programs in the language and tradition of the peoples of the Merrimack Valley	Anything they choose to offer.

YOUR LIBRARY. . .can supply bibliographies and resources on all of the subjects. . .and they want to hear your ideas for other programming.

PLUS. . . PLUS. . . PLUS. . .

WORK SHOP Need a babysitter? Salesclerk? Gardener Need a job? In either case this write-in job clearinghouse is for you!

HAPPENINGS Tell the Merrimack Valley all about your church, club or community doings! This write-in community calendar is YOUR VOICE at WLTI-FM.

YOUR LIBRARY. . .has easy fill-in-the blanks type forms to help you participate in these write-in listings.

AND MORE. . . AND MORE. . . AND MORE. . .

In the fall of 1973 college,public and school librarians in the Lowell area met informally at the invitation of Lowell City Library friend, Arthur Cryan, to explore possible areas of cooperation.
From this Committee of Interlibrary Cooperation developed the present LACOIN,(Lowell Area Council of Interlibrary Networks), whose organization, incorporating libraries in Lowell and six adjacent towns, is patterned after existing library consortia, most notably WACL (Worcester Area Cooperating Libraries)

In early 1974, acting on the suggestion of Lowell Tech's Joseph Kopycinski, LACOIN requested funds from the Bureau of Library Extension to operate WLTI as a library sponsered educational radio station 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M., Monday thru Friday until July 1,1975. The Bureau responded with a grant of $23,900.00 which, coupled with a donation of power from LTI along with space and equipment, gave the project life. A five member executive board representative of the types of libraries involved, hires a program director and assistant who worked with membership to provide assistance and direction to the venture.
Although the radio project is the object of most of the organization's energy at this time, other cooperative projects are being planned, and their prospects of success are increased by the habits of joint effort now being formed.

LACOIN members are delighted to have been given the opportunity to pioneer a new kind of library service, to discharge their traditional responsibilities as information centers in a novel way and serve the varied Greater Lowell community at all levels.

This project is being funded by the Mass. Bureau of Library Extension with Title II funds of LSCA (Library Services and Construction Act) a federal source of library funding.

THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES HAVE PRODUCED FEATURETTES.

AGENCY	LOCATION	TITLE
Adams Library	Chelmsford, Mass.	A Word About Books
Lowell State College	Lowell, Mass.	Government Documents
Lowell Technological Institute	Lowell, Mass.	Government Documents History Notes
Mass. Dept. of Agriculture	Boston, Mass.	Consumer Daily Report
Shawsheen Valley Technical School	Billerica, Mass.	A Word About Books Driver Tips Handyman Tips

Substantial supportive services including office space, supplies personnel, printing, guests, news releases etc. have been supplied by the following institutions/organizations.

Adams Library, Chelmsford, Mass.

Bennett Library, Billerica, Mass.

Elderly Affairs Office, Community Teamwork, Lowell, Mass.

Fletcher Library, Westford, Mass.

Lowell City Library, Lowell, Mass.

Lowell Regional Vocational School, Lowell, Mass.

Lowell Technological Institute, Lowell, Mass.

Mass. Department of Elderly Affairs

Merrimack Valley Home Care, Inc. Lowell, Mass.

Perkins School for the Blind

Shawsheen Regional Vocational School, Billerica, Mass.

NEWS BULLETIN

THE LACOIN NETWORK, WLTI-FM 91.5 ON THE DIAL, HAS PLANS UNDERWAY TO HAVE ONE HOUR OF MORNING AIR TIME DEVOTED TO REACHING THE SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE LISTENING AUDIENCE. FOR A STARTER, THE ONE HOUR DAILY PROGRAM WILL HAVE 15 MINUTES OF NEWS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO OLDER PEOPLE. NEXT WILL BE A ½ HOUR SEGMENT FOR INTERVIEW OF GUESTS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS: HOBBIES, FOOD, MEDICARE, TRAVEL, MEDICAID, HOUSING, TO MENTION JUST A FEW. THE LAST 15 MINUTES MAY BE FOR LIGHT READING SESSIONS, BOOK REPORTS, ETC.

WHAT WE NEED NOW, AND MOST OF ALL, IS TO KNOW THAT YOUR ORGANIZATION IS INTERESTED IN THIS EXCITING, NEW PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM CAN BE SHARED WITH ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP THAT IS CONCERNED WITH THE LIFE AND WELL BEING OF OLDER AMERICANS. THIS IS AN IDEAL PROGRAM TO GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT TO THE PUBLIC BY PUBLIC SERVICE RADIO.

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS. WE WANT YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION. THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF THE LOWELL AND 30 MILE SURROUNDING AREA HAVE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD, ON THE AIR, DAILY, MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, STARTING JANUARY 13, 1975, at 10:00 A.M.

WE ARE NOW PREPARED TO BOOK INTERVIEW DATES. CALL US, OR COME IN, BETWEEN 10: A.M. - 2:00 P.M. FOR FURTHER DETAILS. LACOIN NETWORK, WLTI, 454-7277. LET'S HEAR FROM YOU SOON SO THE PROGRAM CAN START OFF WITH A BANG. YOU CAN HELP US ALSO BY GETTING THE "WORD" OUT. MORE INFORMATION LATER.

"YOUR LIBRARY VOICE IN PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING"

The following agencies have produced or have been guests on the program which have been aired on the LACOIN Radio Network to date. Number in parenthesis refers to the total of shows/appearances.

AGENCY	LOCATION	SHOW
Adams Library	Chelmsford, Mass.	Childs Play (daily) Panorama (4) Afternoon Agenda (2)
American Heart Association	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda
American Assoc. of Retired Persons	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Chelmsford Art Society	Chelmsford, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Bay State Rehabilitation and Nursing	Billerica, Mass.	School Bag (11)
Billerica School Bag	Billerica, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Boy Scouts of Greater Lowell	Lowell, Mass.	Panorama (1)
Byam School	Chelmsford, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Codman Community Farm	Lincoln, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Consumer's Organization for Fair Energy Equality	Swansea, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Elderly Program Community Teamwork Inc.	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1) Sunshine Hour (3)
Consumer Affairs Office, Dept. Attorney General	Lawrence, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1) Afternoon Agenda (1) Panorama (1)
Council for the Aging	Lawrence, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Council on Aging	Bedford, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Council on Aging	Chelmsford, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Council on Aging	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Emergency Adjustment Service to Ex-Offenders	Lowell, Mass.	Focus (8)
Federal Bureau Investigation	Boston, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
First Baptist Church	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (2)

Framingham State College	Framingham, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Friends of the Sensorially Deprived	Belmont, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Goodwill Industries	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Greater Lowell Council on Alcoholism	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1) Focus (7)
Greater Lowell Regional Vocational Tech School	Lowell, Mass.	School Bag (6)
Harrington School	Chelmsford, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Hilltop Press	Melrose, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Home Maker Service	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
LACOIN/WLTI	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Librarians _ Homecare Service	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Literacy Volunteers of Mass.	Worcester, Mass.	School Bag (7)
Lowell District Court	Lowell, Mass.	Focus (5)
Lowell Hebrew Community Center and Temple Beth-El	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (2)
Lowell Historical Society	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Lowell State College	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (4) Panorama (1) School Bag (5)
Lowell Technological Inst.	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (13)
Marsh School	Methuen, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Mass. Audubon Society	Lincoln, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1) Afternoon Agenda (1)
Mass. Chiropractic Society	Quincy, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Mass. Council on Arts and Humanities	Boston, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Mass Dept. of Agriculture	Boston, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (2) Panorama (7)
Memorial Hall Library	Andover, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Merrimack Education Center	Chelmsford, Mass.	School Bag (6)

Preschool for the Deaf	Lowell, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Regional Health Office	Tewksbury, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Rent-A-Kid	Lowell, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints	Lowell, Mass.	School Bag (5)
Robert Weiss Association	Boston, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
SHARE	Lowell, Mass.	Focus (7) Afternoon Agenda (1)
Shattuck School	Littleton, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Shawsheen Valley Technical School	Billerica, Mass.	School Bag (5)
Social Security Office	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (2)
Solomon Mental Health Center	Lowell, Mass.	Focus (4)
Tewksbury,Hospital	Tewksbury, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Visiting Nurse Association	Lowell, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Volunteer In-Service Program	Lawrence, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Wilmington Senior Citizen Drop-In Center	Wilmington, Mass.	Sunshine Hour (1)
Woburn School	Wilmington, Mass.	School Bag (1)
Yankee Siberian Huskie Club	Chelmsford, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)
Young Mens Christian Assoc.	Andover, Mass.	Panorama (1)
Young Mens Christian Assoc.	Lowell, Mass.	Panorama (1)
Young Womens Christian Assoc.	Lowell, Mass.	Panorama (1)
Young Womens Christian Assoc.	Westford, Mass.	Panorama (1)
Youth Resources Agency	Fall River, Mass.	Afternoon Agenda (1)

LACOIN?WLTI FOR RELEASE

LOWELL TECH INST.
LOWELL, MASS. TEL: 457-7277 (Bancroft/McLean)

LIBRARIES OFFER DIALOGUE BETWEEN COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION

Educators in the Merrimack Valley area are being offered an opportunity to establish a dialogue between themselves and the community through the new radio project originated by LACOIN, Lowell Area Council on Interlibrary Networks. The program, airing at 2:00 pm each Monday through Friday features guests from schools and parent groups, and education-oriented professionals and laymen.

"The School Bag" is a 30 minute discussion of topics of interest to citizens and educators alike. To date it has included topics like parent power, hearing problems, vocational and technical education.

At times the program focus will span an entire week, such as one upcoming on a variety of aspects of the new educational bill Chapter #766. Focus during this week will be on evaluation, core meetings, in service training for teachers and individualized instruction. At other times a specific educational institution will be featured. One such, scheduled for the week of Jan. 13 is Northeastern University.

During that week, listeners will meet administrators, counselors and instructors from the University, discussing various facets of university administration, student life and curriculum.

Other topics to be aired on the school bag will be issue oriented items, student concerns, books and resources of value to parents. One example of the latter is a program planned around veterans benefits in education.

LACOIN has been funded by a Title three special projects federal grant to offer libraries services to the greater Lowell Area in a unique and specialized radio project airing over WLTI-FM, 91.5. Mon. - Fri.